

### **Movements of Vocal Cords**

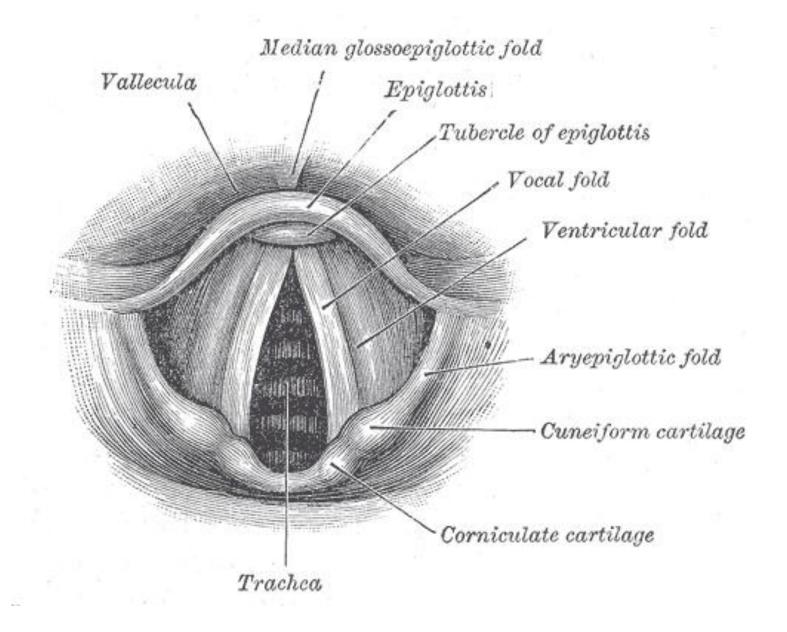
Dr. Aqeel Ahmed Waqas Allama Iqbal Medical College Jinnah Hospital Lahore.

### Introduction

#### **Vocal Folds:**

These are two pearly white sharp bands extending from the middle of thyroid cartilage to the vocal processes of arytenoids.

Each vocal cord consists of a vocal ligament covered by closely bound mucus membrane with scanty subepithelial connective tissue.



#### **Movements**

#### These include:

- > Abduction
- > Adduction
- > Tension
- > Relaxation

# Muscles Responsible For Those Movements

> Abductor:

Posterior cricoarytenoid

> Adductor:

Lateral cricoarytenoid
Transverse cricoarytenoid

> Tensor:

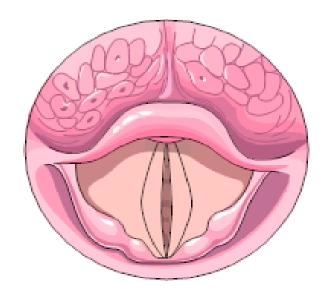
Cricothyroid

> Relaxor:

Thyroarytenoid

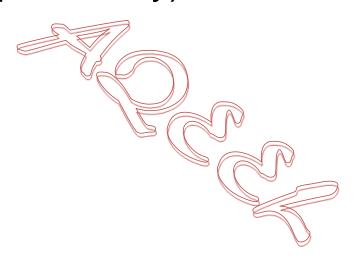
#### Abducted

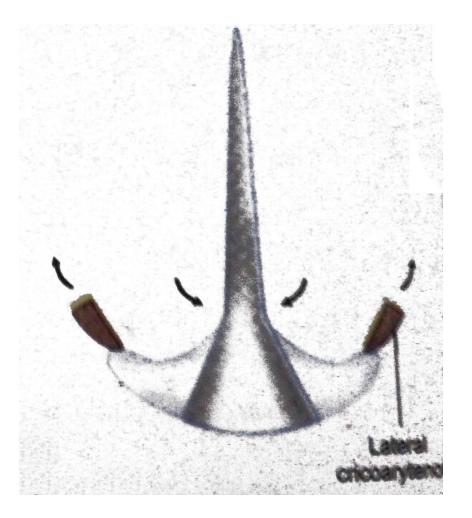
#### Adducted



During Strong Whisper:

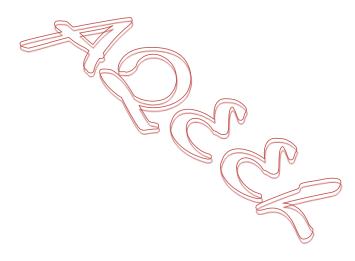
It looks like a *funnel* (with broad base lying posteriorly).

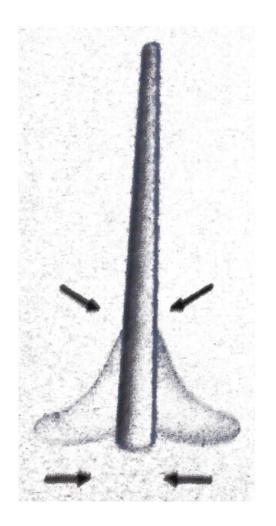




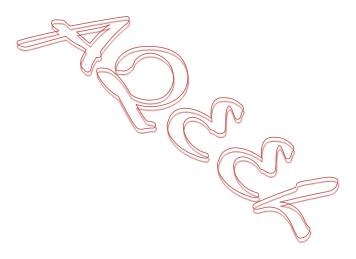
 During Phonation (production of vocal sounds):

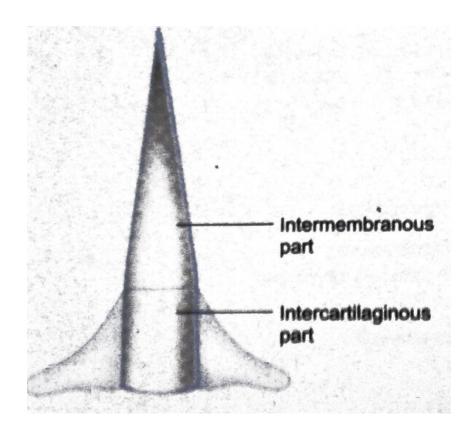
Its shape is like a *linear chink*.





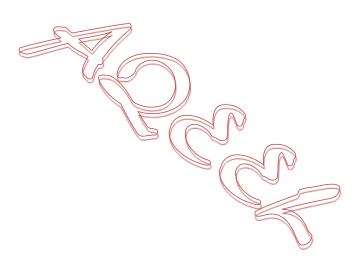
During Quiet
 Breathing (i.e
 condition of rest):
 It appears to be a
 pentagonal slit.

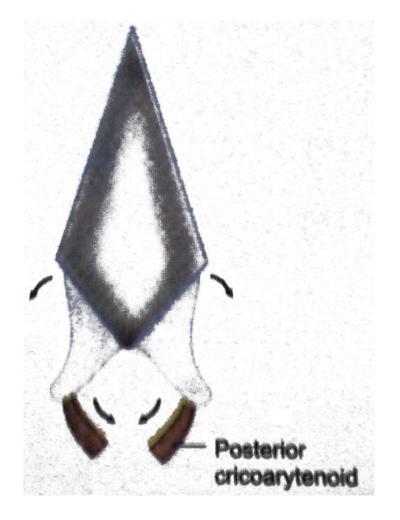




 During Forced Inspiration:
 It assumes a sl

It assumes a shape like a *diamond*.

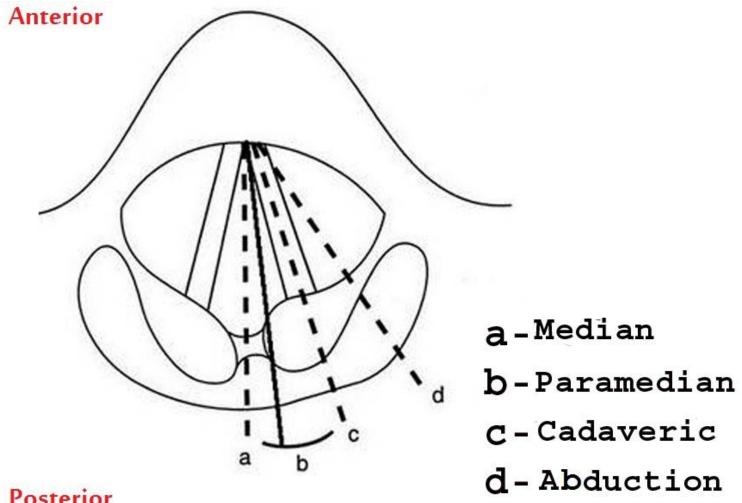




### **Positions of the Vocal Cords**

- These include:
  - > Median
  - > Paramedian
  - > Intermediate (Cadaveric)
  - > Gentle abduction
  - > Full abduction

#### **Positions of the Vocal Cords**



### **Median Vocal Cords**

=> location of cord is in the midline

#### Physiological:

> phonation

#### Pathological:

recurrent laryngeal nerve (RLN) paralysis

#### **Paramedian Vocal Cords**

=> location of cord is 1.5mm from midline

#### Physiological:

> strong whisper

#### Pathological:

recurrent laryngeal nerve paralysis

#### **Cadaveric Vocal Cords**

=> location of cord is 3.5mm from midline

#### Pathological:

> paralysis of both recurrent laryngeal nerve and superior laryngeal nerves

### **Gently Abducted**

=> location of cord is 7mm from midline

- Physiological:
  - > during quiet respiration

- Pathological:
  - > paralysis of adductors

### **Fully Abducted**

=> location of cord is 9mm from midline

- Physiological:
  - > during deep inspiration

- Pathological:
  - > paralysis of adductors

